THE

WEEKLY INSPECTOR.

" Of those men who have overturned the Liberties of Republics, the greatest number
" have begun their career by paying an obsequious court to the People—com-
" mencing DEMAGOGUES, and ending TYRANTS." HAMILTON.

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To the Editor of the Weekly Inspector.

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Ille. Ego qui quondam, gracili modulatus avenâ
Carmen ———
——— at nunc horrentia Martis
Arma cano. VIRG.

I who of late, great BRISTED's humble squire,
The *Wanderer's* praises thrum'd upon my lyre,
Extoll'd his learned head, his generous heart,
His Grecian lore profound, his critic art;
Now tell of forts, epaulments, esplanades,
Torpedoes, castles, cannons, carronades,
Cones and obstructions, chains, redoubts, and moats,
Bombs, batteries, bastions, block-ships, and gun-boats.

SIR,

Some paradoxical philosophers of one of the ten thousand sects of ancient Greece, in the course of their crack-brained speculations, figured to themselves an imaginary character, which they called the "wise man." This phantom was decked with every virtue and every accomplishment. The sage was not only to be wise, brave, beautiful, rich, exempt from error, skilled in every science, blessed with "each gift of nature, and each grace of art," the only friend, the only freeman; but he was moreover to be a priest, a fiddler, and a prophet, a cobler, a prince, and a tailor; he was to be a king, without a single subject, or an inch of dominion, and an expert shoemaker, without ever having even made a slipper*. All this passed in the days of Horace for one of the wild figments of Grecian philosophy; and had the merry bard been blest with the gift of divination, he would have been astonished indeed to have learnt, that in less than two thousand years the dream of Chrysippus would be realized, and the world would be adorned with a whole city of sages, in every respect corresponding to the character of the *wise man* of the stoics.

Don't stare, Mr. Editor. I mean our own dear city of New-York. Are we not all and each of us free, brave, rich, and generous? Can we doubt this, when we see it asserted and re-asserted in every morning's Citizen, and every evening's Post? Is not every one of our citizens, at least every one who pays forty shillings a year for house rent, a king, aye, and a great king, too? Go to one of the polls at an election, and deny it if you dare. Is not every man among us skilled in every art, learned in every science? Look about you, and determine. We wish a plan of fortification for our harbour—every man is an engineer. We must sink piers, for our further security against the enemy—every man is a dock-builder, and is able to inform you of the exact cost and quantity of the necessary materials. We must build forts and batteries—every man is a mason, and can tell you the expense to the fraction of a cent. We must man our forts—every man is a soldier, aye, and every man is an officer, too.

Two months ago we had not an engineer in our country—we are now *all* engineers. Look at that knot of merchants before the Branch bank. What

* Hor. Sat. I. 3. 120—140. Ep. I. 1. ad fin.

are they talking about? They are calculating the expense of a bomb-battery on Ellis's island. Peep into the meeting of the medical society—what what are *they* discussing? They are employed in examining the merits of Montalembert's improvements in marine batteries. Listen at the door of Martling's porter house—the good folks within are warmly disputing whether we should begin to fortify at Governor's Island or the Narrows. Doubtless that venerable clergyman is bestowing most excellent spiritual admonition on the young divine who listens to him with so much attention. No: he is only informing him of the exact distance at which a shot from a twenty-four pounder ceases to be point blank. Observe yonder dinner party—do you see the plump gentleman near the head of the table, who tosses off his wine with the genuine smack of a connoisseur, and occasionally descants on the praise of French cookery, with all the scientific raptures of a Parisian *gourmand enjoué?* What subject can it be on which he is dilating with so much self-complacency, to the great entertainment and edification of his fair neighbour? What can he mean by so rudely pulling about the dishes and glasses, and disturbing the whole economy of the table? He is giving a lecture on fortification, and is this moment endeavouring, by the aid of half a dozen wine glasses and tumblers, to construct a line of impregnable fortresses, in order to defend that immense turreen of turtle soup, from the attack of that chicken-pie, and yonder fleet of potatoes. Would not a stranger, to hear all this, imagine himself to be in one of the iron-girt towns of Flanders, among men born and nursed midst siege and battle, whose eyes from earliest infancy had been accustomed to view the chef-d'œuvres of military art, the still formidable monuments of the power of Louis XIV. and the skill of Cohorn and Vauban? Would he for a moment suspect that three-fourths of these self-taught engineers who swarm in our streets, had never in their lives seen any other fortification than the wooden batteries which we burnt for firewood, a winter or two ago?

Yes: in six short weeks we have all become expert engineers. The morning paper presents us with one plan of defence from a bank director, and another from a veteran officer—of the militia; the evening offers us a third from an ex-governor, and a fourth from "a whig of '76." Scarcely are we allowed time to ponder on these schemes, before Tom Paine insists upon moving the city to Haerlem, and an alderman gravely proposes to shut out the enemy by blocking up the entrance of the Narrows. In short, sir, the fortification mania seems to have become almost as universal as the influenza which has ravaged our city for the last fortnight, and created such an unprecedented demand for green spectacles and candied horehound. Even I—I, Martin Mar-Pedant, have not been able to escape the infection. I that was wont, amidst all the din of party, and the bustle of politics, to be content with lounging at Sargeant's, and growling at the Register-man, have been metamorphosed into a very corporal Trim, immersed over head and ears in gunnery, fortification, and sub-marine navigation. I too have had my plans and my projects. First I had contrived a most ingenious sub-marine worm, which, the moment an enemy's fleet appeared in sight, was to dive down like a coot, meet them at the Hook, apply itself to the bottom of a seventy-four, and by means of a large self-moving auger, in five seconds and a half to bore a hole as large as a church door. This plan I had just brought to perfection, when forth comes Fulton with his infernal machines, and robs me of all my anticipated glory. The public, I knew, would regard my invention only as an improvement of citizen Fulton's, and I scorn to play second fiddle to any man. So the self-moving submarine worm was thrown aside in disgust. Next I spent a week in endeavouring to train a number of fire-flies and lightening bugs, which were to

have alighted in a swarm upon the flag-ship of the enemy's squadron, and suddenly to introduce themselves into the powder magazine. Having fired this, those of the insects who were not destroyed in the explosion, were to proceed to the next vessel, and so on till the whole fleet was annihilated. This was, I confess, a darling project, and it was not without the greatest regret that I perceived myself obliged to relinquish the scheme on account of the indocility of my little pupils, and the great difficulty of procuring and keeping alive a number of them sufficient for the defence of our harbour.

After this I fell upon a plan to protect the city by balloon batteries. This would certainly have succeeded, had it not occurred to me, that should this mode of defence be adopted, Mr. Jefferson would most assuredly give the command of the aerial squadron to Mons. Blanchard or some other French aeronaut. As I have a true John Bull antipathy to all Frenchmen, the very possibility of this was sufficient to deter me from proceeding any farther. I had now no resource but to turn into the beaten track of batteries, gun-boats, and obstructions. A morning's study of Dobson's Encyclopædia made me a perfect master of the whole theory of fortification and gunnery. Indeed, I have great reason to think that I have acquired a complete knowledge of this subject, as I devoted nearly three hours to this study, which, I am told, is more than double the time usually allotted to it by the gentlemen who have of late become so very learned in that science. As theory, however ingenious, is of little use without some small share of practice, I determined to make all my experiments privately in miniature, before I submitted them to the public eye. I say in miniature, as that is certainly the proper mode of experiment; the power of art being there greatest in proportion to the difficulties to be overcome, and the obstacles least. Besides, in operations on the small scale, many things (such as tides, currents, winds, rocks, channels, reefs, shoals, &c.) which in the great works of nature are extremely inconvenient to the ingenious projector, may very conveniently and very properly be dispensed with.

I therefore procured a large trough, in which, after sinking a few dozen piers and cones, each "crowned" with forty-five or fifty mortars, and erecting sixty-seven batteries, each "garnished" with two hundred and ninety-three pieces of heavy artillery, together with a most formidable *plunging battery*, to be erected on the top of the City-Hotel, I succeeded in making the passage perfectly impregnable. I do not believe that the whole British navy could have forced it. And yet, stupendous as these works may appear to be, the whole *calculated cost* amounts only to 119,437 dollars, 53 cents, 7½ mills. In addition to the tremendous appearance which 439 buoys "marking out the line of fire," would present to an enemy, the very names of my batteries, Washington, Green, Clinton, Gates, Montgomery, and so forth, were enough to strike terror and alarm into the breast of the most daring foe. For indeed, Mr. Editor, *names* in cases of this sort, are *things* of no trifling importance. Military and naval men have universally acknowledged this truth. Hence in the navy of Great-Britain, ships of the line are graced with the names of the Victory, Blenheim, Royal Oak, Ocean, Vengeance, Hercules, Mars, and so forth; while the bomb-ketches figure away, as Etna, Vesuvius, Thunder, or Spitfire. The present glorious administration of this country seem deeply sensible of this important truth, and are doubtless perfectly convinced that a good name is of no less consequence to a fort than good artillery. Hence, with the most consummate wisdom, they have changed the name of fort Jay to that of fort Columbus: Governor Jay, it seems, was never distinguished as a military man, and though to be sure Columbus was not much of a warrior, *yet he never was a federalist*.

In the course of my military studies, I made some mathematical discoveries of a nature truly marvellous.

That on which I prided myself the most, was "*a pyramidal cone of a triangular form, rounded with segments;*" a figure perfectly novel, and I believe never dreamt of by any mathematician, ancient or modern, from the days of old Euclid to those of Dr. Playfair. I drew up two elaborate memoirs, one addressed to the American philosophical society, on the properties of my newly discovered cone, the other to the corporation of New-York, "on the defence of the harbour," and was just on the point of committing them to the press, when, to my inexpressible anger and mortification, I learnt that a writer in the Commercial Advertiser of the other evening, under the signature of Mercator, had anticipated all my most ingenious thoughts, adopted all my most original plans, stolen all the names of my forts, and had even got possession of my beloved "pyramidal cone of a triangular form, rounded with segments." In a whirlwind of passion I tore my speculations into ten thousand pieces, broke all my models, and renounced for ever the study of fortification.

MARTIN MAR-PEDANT.

P. S. I had almost forgot to tell you that in the course of my experiments, I had projected a set of portable batteries of red morocco stuffed with sewing silk. These were not only highly ornamental, but extremely useful, as they might be carried about to any part of the city, or its vicinity, in the pockets of the general officers; and were, besides, constructed with a strict regard to economy, as should fortifications hereafter become unnecessary, we all know that morocco and sewing silk "will always command some price." This, however, shared the fate of all my other projects; for the moment that Governor Lewis announced his cotton batteries to the public, my morocco ones vanished into air.

TRIAL OF COL. BURR.

(*Continued from page* 373.)

Wednesday, June 17th.

Mr. Hay adverted to the insinuations respecting the cyphered letter said to be obtained by robbing the post-office.

Mr. Martin proceeded to make some observations on the question, whether a witness could be compelled to answer questions which might criminate himself. He said that Mr. Wirt in his argument had travelled out of the case. He complimented the counsel for the prosecution for the kind advice they were perpetually giving them; but their conduct was at variance with their professions, as they were using every effort to prejudice the minds of the public against his client. The laws of the country presumed that a man was innocent till he was convicted; and he asked how the counsel for the prosecution could reconcile such conduct with the dictates of reason and justice. If the paper in cypher were material, did they wish to criminate Mr. Wilie in a confession? This case and the mode pursued was different from any thing he had ever before seen in practice. If they could not translate the letter, it was their duty to find some one to translate it. A person to translate the letter, ought to be sworn for that purpose, and the prosecutor must find a person to do this.

Mr. Martin produced authorities to this point, adverted to the case of Ogden, and quoted the opinion of the court that he need not answer a question which had a tendency to criminate himself.

Mr. Martin also referred to the case of Goosely, reported by Mr. Caul, page 140, and read the case from Mc Nally of the king against Edwards, and the king against Titus Bates. In the latter, a witness, who was a Roman catholic, was asked, among other questions which he did not answer, whether or not the house where he lodged at St. Omers was governed by priests and Jesuits. This question, although it could not be supposed to affect the accused, he was not compelled to answer. Mr. Martin remarked on the questions put to John Ryland, reported by Mc Nally, one of which was, do you follow any business or profession? The court gave a caution that he was not obliged to answer it, if he thought it would criminate him. If a witness declared that he was interested in a cause, he might not answer any question. The

case would be stronger, if it tended to criminate him; and in criminal cases, the rule for exemption would be ten times as strong, when not only property but life was in jeopardy. The case of attorney being obliged in particular cases to disclose what he knew respecting his client, did not apply, as the interest was not that of the witness, but of his client. In the present case it would not be possible for witness to give an explanation to the court, without taking that shield from him which alone could secure him from the severest punishment. Mr. Martin adverted to the case of Mr. Lincoln, the late attorney in the Mandamus case, as it is generally called. In this case, when Mr. Lincoln was called as a witness, he was told he was not obliged to state any thing which could criminate himself. Mr. M. said, when he showed these authorities, and there was not the shadow of a doubt on the other side, he wondered how gentlemen could support the position they had assumed. Mr. M. said he did not pretend to carry conviction to the minds of the gentlemen so enveloped in prejudice, that no more impression could be made upon them than on the shield of Ajax, composed of seven bull-hides.

Mr. Wickham had only a few remarks to make in addition to the able arguments of Mr. Martin. As to the papers before the court, it was a matter of very little importance. But the decision of the present point was of the highest importance. It might be so to Blennerhasset, many of whose letters and papers might be in possession of the prosecutor. He asked if gentlemen ought to have sounded so high an alarm, and to have talked so much of the impression which was sought to be made on the public mind by this paper. He complained of public prejudices. If they were so excited against his client, he might as well dispense with the form of a trial, and set down assured of conviction. There had been some remarks made that the arguments used by the respondents amounted to a confession of guilt by Col. Burr. No such thing. The persecutions against him, the lawful proceedings against him in the western country, were well known. It was therefore prudent, highly prudent, to use every precaution which the law gave him.

Mr. W. then adverted to the case of Goosely. Although Goosely had been acquitted by the petit jury, and thus proved an innocent man, yet on account of the connexion between him and Reynolds, he was excused from giving testimony. If a man were even accused of murder, and a witness were asked where he was on a certain evening, if this witness were connected with the murderer, such a question might criminate him, and he might be excused from answering. No accomplice ought to be admitted as a witness, unless he come forward voluntarily.

The court deferred giving their opinion until to-morrow.

Col. Burr informed the court that he had objections against the mode in which the witnesses had been brought forward, which had been contrary to every law and custom, and affected the very sources of jurisprudence.

Mr. Botts expatiated on the plunder of the post-offices. That by such iniquitous proceedings they might prevent the accused from obtaining witnesses and peparing for defence. He was prepared to name the persons who had been guilty of the offence.

Chief justice said that the subject could not be introduced, unless the allegations affected some testimony about to be delivered.

Col. Burr stated that there were three persons against whom he could substantiate the charge of obtaining letters improperly from the post-office. Judge Taulman, Mr. Jackson, member of Congress, and Gen. Wilkinson.

Chief justice remarked that the case was not properly before the court, and Col. Burr waved the discussion.

Col. Burr moved for an attachment against the above named gentlemen, for robbing the mails.

Mr. E. Randolph stated that he had not been in court when this discussion commenced, but he intended to have moved for an attachment against Gen. Wilkinson, for compelling persons to give previous affidavits, whom he knew to be witnesses, and illegally forcing by military authority persons from New-Orleans to New-York.

Mr. Hay interrupted Mr. Randolph, and complained that the motion for an attachment was not founded on any point before the court, but calculated solely to retard the prosecution. That the court could not take notice of the offence, unless it was a contempt of court. After some further debate between Mr. Wickham and Mr. Rae on the same subject, chief justice observed that if the offences could be shown to have a tendency to affect the decision of the jury, he could not refuse to hear the motion.

(To be continued.)

A series of numbers have lately made their appearance in the National Intelligencer, which are the most correctly calculated to lead astray, of any thing which has lately met our observation. These remarks appear under the head "Reflections on the comparative effects of a war on the United States and Great-Britain."

"The population of the United States, (says this writer,) is six millions.

"Of this number, five millions two hundred and fifty thousand persons, are employed in cultivating the soil. The remaining seven hundred and fifty thousand persons reside in towns, or pursue occupations other than agricultural.

"Of this last number, about five hundred thousand are mechanics and artificers. Leaving two hundred and fifty thousand supported by trade, by the exercise of the learned professions, by independent fortunes, and avocations neither agricultural nor mechanical.

"All classes and professions, whether resident in towns or in the country, consume nearly the same quantity of domestic productions. The great difference among them lies in the consumption of foreign goods. Of these the family of the farmer does not consume one quarter part as much as the family of a merchant, the lawyer, the physician, and the mechanic, who live in towns. It follows that the distress produced by the war will principally fall on the latter. For nearly the same degree of labour continuing to be applied to the cultivation of the earth, as in ordinary times, the products of domestic articles will be but inconsiderably diminished, and the farmer will continue to have an abundance of them; the same will be the case with the lawyer, the physician, and indeed every class BUT THAT OF THE MERCHANT; for all but him having the same demand for their services as usual, will consequently be able to command with the reward of their labour an abundance of domestic supplies. Indeed, the price of domestic productions being in some measure diminished by the diminution of foreign demand, the same portion of mechanical labour will purchase a greater quantity than usual. They will be obliged, from their enhanced price, to retrench the use of foreign goods; but for this they will be amply compensated by an augmented supply of the most important ingredients of comfort."

This by superficial thinkers will be thought admirable. Your Sloans, your Smilies, and the rest of the very fools of the demagogue party, will be all in extacies on reading and responding these sentiments. But men who happen to possess a little more intellect than these wooden-headed puppets of the dominant party, will be alarmed at the avowal of such principles by the governmental paper. A war with Great-Britain, it should seem, by this writer, besides distressing lawyers, physicians, mechanics, and their families, would destroy the *merchants!!* But let them go! They are of no consequence, comparatively speaking. We can build a wall from the centre of the earth's gravity to the top of the atmosphere, and therein enclose the United States, Louisiana and all; and then, having thus secluded ourselves from the wicked old world, proceed, Mr. "National Intelligencer"—hang, burn, guillotine, and starve our merchants, their families, connexions, dependants, with as little remorse as one would "drown a bitch's blind puppies fifteen i'th the litter." This may be done in perfect conformity with the principles professed by the philosophers of your party; for "these philosophers consider men as they

would mice in an air-pump, or a receptacle of mephitic gas." Break down, destroy, and overturn, and leave it to plodding and less sublimated geniuses to build, restore, and renovate society.

We confess that to us the nonsense of such a scribbler as the author of these "Reflections," is perfectly nauseating. We had rather gulp a dose of ippechec, than be forced to read a page of it. The writer, whoever he is, appears to be ignorant of the first principles of the social compact.

Civilized society may be compared to an elegant piece of architecture. The mercantile class and the learned professions are its pillars, or, more properly, key stones. Subtract a pillar or a key stone from the building, and the whole fabric falls.

Our pretended politicians, who, like Duane and his supporters, are hostile to the learned professions, ought to leave the abodes of civilized man, and go to the haunts of the savage. Let them in the wilderness carry into effect their wild theories, and make a hollow tree their domicile, their cottage, and their palace.

The men who deserted from the British, and were the cause of the late violent proceedings, are stated by Commodore Barron to have been,

William Ware, pressed by the British frigate Melampus. He is said to be an American from Frederic County, Maryland.

Daniel Martin, pressed by the same frigate, a native of West-Port, in Massachusetts.

Jno. Strachan, born on the east shore of Maryland, Queen Anne's County. He was pressed on board of the Melampus, off Cape Finisterre, and was afterwards induced to enter.

William Ware and *John Strachan* have protections. *Daniel Martin* says he lost his, after leaving the frigate.

John Little, alias, *Francis*, and *Ambrose Watts*, escaped from the Melampus at the same time, known to the above persons to be Americans, but have not been entered by any recruiting officer.

William Ware, Daniel Martin, and Jno. Strachan, state that some time in February last, there was an entertainment on board the Melampus, then lying in Hampton Roads; that while the officers, &c. were engaged, and all the ship's boats except the captain's gig being hoisted in: themselves and the two other men mentioned, availed themselves of a moment to seize the gig and row off; that as soon as they had got into the boat, they were hailed to know what they were going to do. They replied that they were going ashore—a brisk fire of musketry instantly commenced from the ship—that in defiance of balls, and at the hazard of their lives, they effected their escape.

It must be acknowledged that the statement here given, if correct, gives a different aspect to the proceedings of the British, connected with the affair in the Chesapeake. But a part, at least, of the statement is not correct.

The Salem Gazette declares, that

"The assertion of the President, in his proclamation against the British navy, that the seamen about whom the late dispute has arisen, "were *native citizens* of the United States," we have reason to believe is not perfectly correct. One of them, (Daniel Martin) who is stated to be a native of *Westport*, is ascertained to have been born in St. Domingo. He is a mixture of Indian and Spanish When a boy he was taken and brought away as an ap-

prentice by a Captain Howland, who was then on a whaling voyage. He lived with Capt. H. till his death, which happened about 4 years ago, but soon afterwards ran away from his mistress, being then about 19 years of age. It is not probable he was ever naturalized."

Whether the account given of each of the other deserters may not be equally inaccurate, it is impossible for us to say. But admitting the case as strong against the British as has been supposed by our government; the *principle* for which our administration contends is such, that England cannot accede to it without signing and sealing her own destruction. And the plea of necessity, when the necessity is imperious, is allowed to be valid by writers on the laws of nations. A belligerent power, in a case of extreme necessity, has a right to seize by force and convert to its own use the private property of its own subjects, or that of the citizens of a neutral nation, paying its full value. It surely then will not be denied that such a belligerent has a right to her own subjects, wherever found.

For every wrong there exists a remedy, is a maxim which applies as well to the laws of nations, as to municipal law. It is wrong that the British, especially at this crisis, should lose by desertion their sailors. They make a demand for the surrender of the fugitives. But are told that "not only no prerogative for that purpose is vested in the executive of the United States, but that neither the law nor the practice of nations impose on them an obligation to provide for the surrender of fugitives from the jurisdiction of other powers. That the obligation can result only from special and mutual stipulations; which do not exist between the U. S. and Great-Britain." The British attempt to negociate for such an article, and a treaty is framed containing a stipulation to that purport. But our government will not even condescend to go through the usual forms prescribed by the constitution as necessary for the ratification or rejection of the treaty. Meantime their seamen are deserting; their navy, the prop of the world, is on the verge of destruction. What can be done? Our administration will not treat, and have no power to surrender the deserters. The British cannot sit down under the loss; but they can, by an appeal to their cannon, obtain a summary redress.

We would by no means be understood to say that the British have a right to impress American seamen, or that their continuing to impress them is not a just ground of complaint between the two countries; and granting those men to have been native, or, properly, naturalized Americans, her conduct in the affair of the Chesapeake, cannot be justified. If those seamen were not British subjects, but were impressed Americans, forced to continue in foreign service, the outrage was flagrant, and calls loudly for reparation. If they were British subjects, and deserters, and had been demanded, and our government refused to give them up, having previously refused to treat on the subject, the English could not possibly proceed in a different manner. Their men they must have. They have tried mild measures, but found them futile. Their dernier resort, their only remaining resource, was what they have embraced.

I know that many good Federalists,

gentlemen whom I sincerely esteem, and highly respect, will be point blank against some of my positions. They may think that G. Britain is intolerably haughty, and that she ought to be somewhat humbled—That she is as tyrannical on the seas as Bonaparte is on land. They may suppose that there is a spirit now excited, which may lead to national exertion, and of course to national power and respectability. But, provided I am wrong, I have at least a right to my opinions.—They are the result of deliberation, and ought to be tolerated in a land of liberty. The celebrated Dr. Johnson wrote against a war with Spain, in his political pamphlet called Falkland Islands. Nobody said, however, on that account that he was not a true Englishman. The celebrated Burke was our friend, during the revolutionary war. But nobody called him an American, nor disputed his patriotism and attachment to his native country.

It has been said that Great-Britain refuses to grant us the privilege which she claims—That her ships are not to be searched for our deserters—That she will not treat on terms of reciprocity. If that be true, it alters the case. But I am by no means convinced of any such thing. She might, and probably would, in case of contracts having been made by American seamen having entered on board her vessels, insist on their fulfilment. But we do not believe her government could absurdly insist on an article in a treaty giving them a right to search for disserters, prohibiting our exercise of the same right.

With regard to some of our popularity-seekers, if such there are, who are lying on their oars in order to see which way the current will set, we believe that they will obtain no credit for their adroitness. The man who intends to be useful to his country must risk his popularity.—He should not needlessly fly in the face of public opinion; but if he spends his time in watching the straws which are wafted by the breath of popular applause, he will be of no more value in society than would be a Jack-daw stuffed and hung high, to show which way the wind blew.

Indeed, there are some sentiments prevalent among our newspaper editors, fostered by the state of society, which are very erroneous. Among others, that the editors of newspapers, instead of leading, must follow the multitude. They wait till they find what their good friends, the people, have in their wise heads determined on, before they dare speak their own sentiments. If, however, they should have the temerity to speak out, away go their subscribers, and the man is denounced as a tory or some other monster.

The people having political watchmen set on high places, commanding a wide view of the political world, are yet much better informed than these very watchmen. If they give the least warning, express a sentiment which does not suit their high majesties, down with them—Condemn them without judge or jury, and support nobody but the vilest of the villainous—the dregs of human nature—the creeping creature who is the tool of any body,

"And bid him go to hell, to hell he goes."

We find that our sentiments on the subject of war, are perfectly in unison with those of the able editor of the Boston Repertory, altho' we certainly have

had no correspondence, nor concert, as respects the late attack; and our remarks were principally written before we saw his paper, in which he animadverts on the outrage, and the steps which led to it.

" Reader, contemplate, for one moment, the abominable absurdity of the Jeffersonian policy.—The interests of our merchants are so dear to him, that sooner than suffer Great-Britain to take her own subjects from on board their vessels, he will go *to war*;* yet in calculating the effects of that war, the whole body of these very merchants she so much regards, are to be overwhelmed in ruin, and with them all who have not land, and the power of gaining a subsistence from it. Is this morality? Is it the equal justice, the equal security and protection which is sacredly due by the constitution to every citizen? Such unprincipled doctrines were never advanced by any government under heaven. Were it possible to separate the interests of the merchant from the farmer, which, however, can never be realized, we presume that there is not a farmer in the country who could sit down, like this writer, and, setting one-eighth of his fellow-citizens aside, coolly say—let these suffer, it is of no consequence; the evils that we should experience, ought alone to be considered, in contrasting between nations the comparative effects of war.

" We have ever known it to be a part of Mr. Jefferson's political theory that it would be for the advantage of this country to destroy all navigation. His measures relating to the subject have ever worn that complexion. There are not probably ten men out of Virginia, who are the dupes of such a wild and impracticable system but this writer, whoever he may be, goes further. He may deem it wisdom in the nation to compel every citizen to live by his own labour. Speaking of the country as principally agricultural, he says, " Of such a state of society it is the necessary effect, that there are comparatively few dependent for support *on any thing but their own labour.* And when the government *is wisely formed, and calculated to advance the general good,* THIS IS STILL MORE THE CASE."

If, however, war with England is determined on, let us equip our volunteers, for a regular army is out of the question, according to the nature of the service. Seven leagued boots, cork jackets, air-balloons, sea-balloons, torpedoes, and diving bells, ought to compose a part of our camp equipage, for the English will be careful not to come on shore to be shot at by our brave miiitia. It would likewise seem to be a good preparatory measure to burn our shipping, gun-boats and all, to prevent their falling into the hands of the tyrants of the ocean, and thereby increase their means of annoying us; and no doubt patriots of the Sloan and Smilie cast would advise us to set fire to all our sea port towns, lest they too should fall into the hands of an invading enemy; and if we should not find it quite convenient to travel under water, we should be glad to know whether Captain Cheetham, or even Colonel Duane, with each an army of fighting men, could wrest this city out of the hands of a power that could command the surface of the ocean.

Many of those men who have long been opposed to the policy of our administration, and dreaded its effects, have yet believed that they cannot be so crazy as to really set about a war

* " We still keep this in view, as the only probable difficulty we shall have with England; for we find administration papers, and National Intelligencer paragraphs, maintain that ground, though it does not apply to the Chesapeake. They seem resolved to be satisfied with nothing less."

with Great-Britain; and that all this bluster will terminate in a mortifying display of their rashness and imbecility—That the people will by those means be convinced of the weakness and incapacity of their political idols, and have recourse to federal men and measures.

But we fear that in this they reckon without their host. It is the policy of our men at helm to apply to France for aid; for such are the sentiments avowed by Mr. Jefferson. An alliance with France, it is supposed, will soon put us in a situation to bid defiance to Great-Britain; and that such an alliance has been contemplated by the leading democrats, and that their measures have had a systematic direction to that end, every page of our political history since the French revolution, renders apparent. Should this take place, from the allies we should soon become the vassals of that colossal power; and, instead of a few American seamen impressed by mistake aboard British men of war, our friend Napoleon would levy conscripts of thousands for the land and sea service of France, and the flower of American youth would be compelled to fill the bands of the despot who is ravaging the globe.

Some of our good countrymen are so outrageously philanthropical, that they would go to war with England because she impresses her own subjects aboard her men of war, and Mr. Secretary Madison reasons with all his plausibility on the subject. But this gentleman can wink at the modes adopted by Bonaparte to recruit his armies, and does not perceive that the rights of man are in the least degree violated by chaining the wretches and dragooning them into the service of the modern Attila.

WEST, THE PAINTER.

In a late London paper, in an account of the exhibitions of the Royal Academy for 1807, we observe the following remark:—"The president (Mr. WEST) maintains his rank *as the most scholastic painter this country ever produced.*" We deny (says the Boston Centinel) that England produced this great painter; and affirm that she is indebted to the United States for this excellent artist. We are ready, however, to admit that her bounty and patronage enabled the American to give range to his capacity; and that his rare talents have been ripened in the rays of her munificence; but we will not permit her to rob our country of the honour of having given birth to the President of her Royal Academy. This year our countryman has produced a "a sketch of a monument for perpetuating the memory of the late Lord Nelson." "There is," says the London prints, "novelty in this design of the President, inasmuch as his object is to combine in it the three branches of the Art which constitute the Academy—Architecture, Sculpture, and Painting: in the latter department, however, which is his own, Mr. WEST has been most successful in the picture which forms the central part of the monument. It is allegorical: the subject—"The Immortality of Nelson." A very fine likeness of the deceased hero is preserved in this picture, the design and composition of which are highly poetical and appropriate. Of the architectural and statuary parts of the work, great classicality and simplicity of form are observed; but which appear more calculated to give prominence of effect to the labours of the painter, than to derive any from them.

FOREIGN.

HAMBURGH, *June* 5.

According to reports from the fishermen of Heleigoland and Blackenese, the captains Burmeister, Schmidt, and Peterson, navigating under the Danish flag, and bound from Altona to Tonningen, have been sent back by the English squadron that forms the blockade of the Elbe.—This squadron lies at anchor at Cuxhaven.

"BANKS OF THE ELBE, *June* 6.

"The capture of Dantzic forms an epoch in war, or rather, perhaps it may be said to mark the commencement of the second campaign. It is some consolation to find that the garrison has obtained terms of capitulation, which, though formerly very usual, have within a few years been seldom granted. The partisans of the French seem themselves half ashamed of this; and it has therefore been simply announced, that "the garrison of Dantzic has obtained the terms formerly granted to Mentz." You will find on a reference to the history of the campaign of 1793, that the capitulation of that city, which took place on the 22d July, allowed the French garrison to march out of the fortress with all the honors of war, promising not to bear arms against Prussia, during twelve months.

"Some of the papers assert, that near the theatre of war the capture of Dantzic was considered as the prelude of a very speedy peace. The better opinion, however, seems to be, that the event of a general engagement will be waited, and that a battle may shortly be expected. In the meanwhile, the French are solicitous that their recent acquisition should not be overlooked nor its importance under rated. We see from the papers, that in the different places the fall of Dantzic is celebrated by the military; and yesterday, also, the city soldiers of Hamburgh were forced reluctantly to make their cannon roar out that annunciation, which is retarded only by the groans of every patriotic German.

"Information has been brought from Stralsund, that Gen. Ruchel is arrived there. Every day fresh supplies were coming in. It is said that there are from 6 to 8000 Prussians stationed in the Island of Rugen; but the King of Sweden has not yet announced the termination of the armistice.

"The Altona Mercury of yesterday states, that the head quarters of Gen. Brune are removed from Stettin to Anclam; and that, according to the last information from Demmen, on the 20th, the Swedish Col. Von Tawast, was about to return to Stralsund, having made arrangements concerning the prisoners of war.

"While the measures of the King of Sweden indicate no decline of zeal in the common cause, the French papers continue to hold forth the language concerning him which might reasonably excite suspicion, had we not full confidence in the character of the monarch, and were we not well acquainted with the perfidious arts of sowing dissentions and jealousy, in which the enemy is without a rival. It is sometimes amusing to observe how suddenly the French papers change their tone. To-day it is to be expected that the wisdom of the British cabinet will soon make them perceive that England has more to fear from the vast power of Russia than even France; and that an union of these two states is necessary for their common existence. To-morrow attempts will be benevolently made to show the brave and well-meaning, but misled Alexander, how nobly and wisely he would act were he to head a confederacy against the tyrants of the sea. But the name and character of no one are bandied from side to side more unremittingly than those of Frederick William. There is no doubt that the capture of Dantzic has occasioned a fit of compensation for the good King, who is so lamentably enslaved and tyranized by the Northern Czar.

London, June 17.

It is now said by those who have an undisguised satisfaction in dwelling on the late unfortunate concurrence in Egypt, that our loss in the second action exceeded what is stated in the letter of Gen. Frazer. An extract of a private letter from Messina is communicated, for the purpose of showing the aggravated circumstances of the affair, which in substance states:

"That upon the day following the junction of Gen. Stuart with Gen. Mead, the former ordered a second assault to be made on Rosetta, and that the streets should be previously cleared by the field pieces. This was accordingly executed, and seeing the streets apparently cleared, Gen. Stuart advanced, when they were suddenly attacked from behind by a large force of Albanians, who approached under cover of a fog, and entered the temporary entrenchments which had but then been abandoned by the English. In the same moment the Turks sallied from behind Rosetta, and the English were attacked at once in front and rear. The loss of the English is estimated at fifteen hundred men, of whom upwards of nine hundred were left dead on the field. Gen. Stuart remained one night and the following day upon the field of battle to bury his dead; but the enemy had by this time become so numerous, and were making such formidable prepatations to cut him off, that he deemed it advisable to commence his retreat. The English fought with the most desperate courage, but they were opposed to numbers which overwhelmed them."

We would hope that altho' the loss has been serious, we are in the possession of the principal features of it. Gen. Frazer could have had no reason to paliate the particulars of it, and we cannot suppose, from what we know of them, that the present administration would be very careful to conceal any circumstance of the failure.

—

The ministerial prints inform us, that all is preparation and bustle in our sea ports, and on our coasts, and that the long talked of expedition is about to sail without delay: so that it is possible, if a pacificatory negociation be in progress, that the British contingent may reach its destination just in time to witness the signing of the preliminaries. Whether the troops under orders for embarkation are intended to co-operate with the allies or not, there has been a strange fatuity in assembling them. At one time the Grand Expedition, as it is called, stands still, because some of the force to be sent on it, is at a distance from the point of embarkation; but when the distant troops are arrived, then the nearest body of men, who are to form a part of the armanent are to march from the interior to the coast, as if no previous calculation could have been made, so as to have both description of troops at the point required at one and the same time. Such a combination we should have thought if we had not seen this flagrant instance to the contrary, to have been within the compass of the plodding heads of this peerless administration; but no—it would seem that they have not talents for combining any two given things. When they had determined on an expedition, they could not derive the means of getting their men together; when that is accomplished, they know not either when or where to send them. The thing would seem to have been so unaccountably long in agitation, that the object has become indeterminate; so that our preparations, with all their pomp and circumstances, and all the well-timed praises bestowed on them by the ministerial writers, are a mockery of expectation from abroad, and a general ridicule at home.

DOMESTIC.

Lexington, July 21.

On Tuesday last Harman Blannerhassett arrived in this town from the Missisippi territory. Immediately on his arrival he was arrested at the instance of Mr. Sanders, on a civil process, and before his discharge was

again arrested by the marshal for the Kentucky district, on an affidavit made by Mr. David Meade, the purport of which was, that Blannarhassett had been iddicted for treason, and a true bill found by the grand jury at Richmond, Virginia. It fortunately happened that judge Todd was in town, before whom Mr. Blannarhassett was immediately brought; but as he wished to be heard by counsel, he was committed to jail, and ordered to be again before the judge at 9 o'clock the next morning, at which time he read to the court an affidavit which he had drawn up. The crowd was so great that the editor was unable to hear the whole of it, but he understood it went to give a history of his arrest and discharge in the Missisippi territory—of his being on his journey home, when he heard, at Danville, of the indictment being found against him---of the means he used to ascertain the truth of the report; and that being satisfied of its correctness, he had hastened to this place to surrender himself to Mr. Bibb, attorney for the U. S.—that soon after he arrived he was arrested upon a civil process---that he had met Mr. Clay, to whom he communicated his intentions, and requested advice as to the mode he should adopt---that Mr. Clay said he was too much engaged to attend at that time to his application, but promised to see him on the subject at 9 o'clock the next day. He declared it to be his wish to be sent on to Richmond, to receive his trial at that place. Mr. Clay, as counsel, assured the court, that he was instructed by his client to express his wish to be sent on for trial---he only wished an unnecessary rigour might not be observed, and that he might be forwarded in a manner as delicate as the nature of his situation would permit. Mr. Clay at the same time took the liberty, as a citizen, to protest against, or rather to object to the mode which had been pursued by the court---he viewed the proceedings as unprecedented and illegal. He, however, wished it to be understood that his observations were made as a citizen, and not at the instance of Mr. B.---it was his real wish to be sent on for trial. Mr. Bibb stated that he had provided himself with authorities to prove the proceedings proper; but that he had that morning inquired of Mr. Clay whether any exceptions would be taken to the legality of the proceedings, and being informed that none would be taken, had neglected to bring his authorities into court; that he was now surprised to find the exceptions taken.

Mr. Clay stopped him, again to declare, that the exceptions were not by the consent of Mr. B. who he believed was really desirous of being conveyed to Richmond.

Mr. Blannerhasset assured the court that Mr. Clay had justly stated his desire, and pledged himself, that whatever might be the decision of the judge, he would accompany M. Meade, the deputy Marshal, to Richmond. But he wished not to be understood as making a parade of willingness which he did not feel, of meeting investigation, as he was more desirous of going as a prisoner, at the public charge, than at his own expense, as his fortune was impaired. He made an affecting appeal to the citizens of Lexington, which would have been favourably received, had not the high crimes with which he was charged forcibly rebutted it. He spoke of the friendly attention and hospitable treatment experienced be himself and family, and hoped that they would not believe without evidence, that their attentions had been bestowed on unworthy objects.

The Judge took time to make up an opinion as to the proceedings which ought to be had in the case, and issued a warrant for his commitment and safe keeping, until the district judge could be applied to, who ordered him to be delivered to the court at Richmond without delay.

He was yesterday sent off, attended by Mr. Meade and a guard of five men.

IMPORTANT INTELLIGENCE.

The Boston Centinel of the 12th inst. (which we received as our paper was going to press) contains intelligence of a most interesting nature from the European theatre of hostilities. We shall give a brief summary.

On the 5th of June, according to the French accounts, twelve Russian regiments attacked the *bridge-head* at Spanden. They made seven successive attacks, and were as often repulsed. The Russians lost 1200, and many wounded.

Two Russian divisions attacked the bridge-head of Lomilten. Two French intrenched regiments defended it. The Russian general was killed, and they lost 1100 killed, 100 prisoners, and great numbers wounded. The Russian commander, Benningsen, attacked Marshal Ney, who discovering that his assailants exceeded 40,000 men, led his corps to Ackendorf.

June 6th, the Russians were again the assailants, at Deppen on the Passarge. They lost 2000 killed, and 3000 wounded.

On the 8th the Emperor arrived at Deppen. The 4th corps met a Russian division. Disabled 500 men, and took 150.

The Emperor advanced on Gustadt. The town, was taken, with 100 prisoners.

On the 10th the several Russian divisions were routed, and particular mention is made of the bravery of the *Spanish* cuirassiers.

On the 11th the Emperor made arrangements for a decisive action. The Russians began at night to retreat across the Alle, leaving their wounded and their magazines behind them.

On the 12th all the army was in motion. From the 5th to the 12th the Russian army had been deprived of 30,000 fighting men.

The French state their loss at about 6 or 700 killed, 2000 or 2200 wounded, and 300 prisoners.

PARIS, June 25, 1807.

GREAT BATTLE.

Yesterday his highness Prince Borghese arrived at the palace of St. Cloud, and brought from the Emperor to the Empress and Queen, the news of a victory which, on the 14th of this month, was gained at Friedland (about 20 miles S. of Konigsburg) by the Grand Army, commanded by the Emperor in person. The following particulars were given at headquarters, and which we are authorized to repeat, while we are waiting for the official bulletin:—

"The French army has worthily celebrated the 14th June, the anniversary of the battle of Marengo.—The battle of Friedland will be celebrated in history.—The Russian army, out-manœuvred, its centre penetrated, cut off from its magazines, has been completely beaten. Eighty pieces of cannon taken, 25 to 30,000 Russians taken, killed, or drowned in the Alle, are the results of this memorable day. Thirty Russian generals have been killed, taken, or severely wounded. The bodies of several generals were found dead on the field of battle; and it is worthy of remark, that among them were the bodies of generals Pahlen and Marcoff, two of the first instigators of the faction devoted to England." [*Monitcur.*

The communication of our correspondent, Martin Mar-Pedant, relative to the trumpery schemes of the "slang-whangers," for fortifying New-York, contains a very fine ironical exposition of the gim-crackery on that subject, now afoot in the "wise city of Gotham." William Wizard, Esq. one of the chief confectioners in the restaurateur of "Salmagundi," in that publication of yesterday, has broached some plans in some degree similar. Our correspondent, however, at the time of penning his sagacious speculations, could not have been privy to the labours of Mr. Wizard, as we received his manuscript nearly a week since, and of consequence before Mr. Wizard had given birth to his lucubrations.

THE BUTTERFLY'S BALL,
AND THE
GRASSHOPPER'S FEAST.

Said to have been written by WILLIAM ROSCOE, *Esq. M. P. for* Liverpool, *for the use of his children; and set to music by order of their Majesties for the princess* MARY.

COME take up your hats, and away let us haste,
To the Butterfly's Ball, and the Grasshopper's Feast:
The trumpeter Gad-fly has summon'd the crew,
And the revels are now only waiting for you.

On the smooth-shaven grass by the side of a wood,
Beneath a broad oak which for ages had stood,
See the children of earth, and the tenants of air,
To an evening's amusement together repair.

And there came the Beetle, so blind and so black,
Who carried the Emmet, his friend, on his back;
And there came the Gnat, and the Dragon-fly too,
And all their relations, green, orange, and blue.

And there came the Moth, with her plumage of down,
And the Hornet, with jacket of yellow and brown,
Who with him the Wasp, his companion, did bring,
But they promis'd, that ev'ning, to lay by their sting.

Then the sly little Dormouse peep'd out of his hole,
And led to the feast his blind cousin, the Mole;
And the Snail, with her horns peeping out of her shell,
Came, fatigu'd with the distance, the length of an ell.

A mushroom the table, and on it was spread
A water-dock leaf, which their table-cloth made.
The viands were various, to each of their taste,
And the bee brought the honey to sweeten the feast.

With steps most majestic the Snail did advance,
And he promis'd the gazers a minuet to dance;
But they all laugh'd so loud that he drew in his head,
And went in his own little chamber to bed.

Then, as ev'ning gave way to the shadows of night,
Their watchman, the Glow-worm, came out with his light:
So home let us hasten, while yet we can see; [me.
For no watchman is waiting for you or for

THE DOWNFALL OF PRUSSIA.

A DIRGE, *adapted to music of "The Flowers of the Forest."*

.....

OH! wo to the traitor, that dark violator,
Who gave up the brave to the sword of the foe!
Oh! curst be the naming of him whose foul framing
Our land fill'd with ruin, our hearts fill'd with wo!

See our brave Soldiers dying! our beauteous Queen flying;
Our Vet'rans betray'd, wounded, bleeding and bare!
Our fields, once joy-speaking, with gallant blood reeking!
Oh! death to the Traitor who caus'd our despair!

Towns, where Labour once smiling, and sweet Peace beguiling,
In flames of destruction now redden the air!
Soldiers' shouts wildly breaking! women moaning and shrieking,
With horror and tears flee away in despair!

The Palace, once ringing with dancing and singing,
No more bears the footsteps of Beauty and Mirth!
There the Victor insulting, o'er the brave dead exulting*!
Nor content till the fall'n are sunk deep in the earth†!

Gone the home's gentle blessing, where children caressing,
Round the table once sat, fond and smiling and gay!
Now at the meal drooping, each head with grief stooping,
Mourns the father now slain and laid cold in the clay!

Oh, wo to the Traitor, that dark violator,
Who gave up the brave to the sword of the foe!
Oh, curst be the naming of him whose foul framing
Our land fill'd with ruin, our hearts fill'd with wo! B.

* See the fifteenth Bulletin, which, after mentioning the names of the generals who have honourably and nobly promoted the war, with indecent and brutal exultation, it puts in parenthesis the unhappy fate which attended each of these brave men. In noticing the Duke of Brunswick, with a kind of malignant enjoyment, it says, "wounded very badly;" and immediately speaks in contempt of him. This Bulletin is made up of insult to women and dead warriors! "The days of Chivalry are gone!"

† See the 21st Bulletin, where the Emperor of the French, at the palace of Berlin, addresses Count Von Neade; he concludes, "The good people of Berlin have been the sacrifice of the war, while those who excited it have left them, and have become fugitives. I shall reduce those noble Courtiers to such extremities, that they shall be compelled to beg their bread!!"

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